

Cousin John brightens up once in awhile and talks quite like himself. He has told some very funny stories of the olden time which I will try to remember and tell you when you come home.

I suppose Annie told you that Cousin Lou painted two more pictures of the old house, one and end view, and one, taking in the old willow and the back of the kitchen with the water barrel etc.

We are having a rain tonight if only it holds out it will be such a blessing, the grain is all dying up this way.

Dr Allen is attending to Charlie's ears, says he don't see how he got along at all. says they are very badly inflamed. Aunt Jane said she was going

over with Jessie Lewis on Saturday to see Dear Millie

I dont know what you have thought of your mother for not writing to you for so long. Thank you for not returning evil for evil.

I suppose you know that we have had Cousin Lou and Aunt Jane here, and now have Cousin John Lessius here. I am not making much progress in your sewing, but I do not suppose there is any thing immediately suffering about that. I am always expecting that just ahead of me lies the still unattained leisure time that is to enable me to do up the sewing. As it looks to me now, I shall reach that time next week.

That is to say, if Cousin John goes back Monday as he expects to do. I never saw any one so broken as he is and I confess to some anxiety lest he should be taken down sick and not be able to go back. Annie seems to have somewhat recovered from her cold. Aunt Jane and Cousin Louie say that they do not see but that she is just about as she was. I wish I could think so. I don't think I should know how to get along very long with Cousin John and her in the same house.

He wants to be as very very warm, and he seems to make her very nervous, by talking so much of his feelings and symptoms

One thing amuses her very much, and that is the very meek way in which Papa submits when he takes some position about subjects spoken of, positions which if any one else was to take he would take them in hand pretty severely. You see there are but few things about which the ^{Presbyterian} ~~two~~, (the puritan) Yankee, and the Quaker Congregational westerner can exactly agree, and knowing so well as I do the danger of collision on almost every subject that is started I am always a little anxious when they are together, and they used to collide in spite of my care, but Papa has been real quiet this time and as Annie says very meek.